COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA Office of the Secretary of Transportation

PIERCE R. HOMER Secretary of Transportation FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 31, 2006

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Secretary of Transportation Thanks American Society of Civil Engineers for Reviewing Dulles Metrorail Project

~ Report on Tunnel Option submitted by a panel convened by the American Society of Civil Engineers ~

RICHMOND – Secretary of Transportation Pierce R. Homer today thanked the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) for conducting an independent review of the tunnel alternative for the Tysons Corner area of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project. The panel has submitted its final report. The report was conducted under the auspices of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) at the request of the Secretary.

"I appreciate the significant effort undertaken by ASCE and members of this panel. They have prepared a high quality report in a professional fashion. We will now evaluate the report, discuss its content, and make a decision by the end of August. This decision will be made in consultation with Fairfax County, the Federal Transit Administration, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, the regional Congressional leadership and our other project partners," said Secretary Homer.

The report is available online at the ASCE's website: www.asce.org.

"As a leading professional engineering organization with a strong commitment to protecting public health, safety and welfare, ASCE was pleased to lead this effort in support of the Commonwealth of Virginia," said Patrick J. Natale, P.E., F.ASCE, CAE.

Founded in 1852, the American Society of Civil Engineers represents more than 139,000 civil engineers worldwide and is America's oldest national engineering society. For more information, visit www.asce.org.